

MINUTES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Tuesday, February 21, 2006 3:35 p.m. Room 519 House Office Building, Lansing

Representative Nitz, Chair, called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Representatives Nitz, Ball, Newell, Casperson, Stahl, Proos, Hune, Mayes, Spade, Kathleen Law, Sheltrown. (11/11)

The Chair laid the following bills before the Committee:

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| HB 5711 | Proos | Environmental protection; other; presumption of compliance with environmental law; provide for farm participating in MAEAP program. |
| HB 5712 | Booher | Agriculture; other; authority for permitting livestock facilities; revise. |
| HB 5713 | Mortimer | Environmental protection; other; booklet regarding on-farm fuel storage; require department of environmental quality to publish. |
| HB 5714 | Stahl | Environmental protection; other; complainant's name to be given when filing a complaint concerning a farm with the department of environmental quality; require. |
| HB 5715 | Nitz | Environmental protection; water pollution; clean water fund nonpoint source program; designate department of agriculture to oversee. |
| HB 5716 | Pavlov | Environmental protection; water pollution; clean water assistance nonpoint source programs; designate department of agriculture to oversee. |

Representative Nitz reviewed the intent of the package of bills HB 5711-5716 and stated that the purpose of the meeting would be to receive testimony on the bills.

Representative Proos briefly reviewed the provisions of HB 5711-5716.

The following individuals spoke to the Committee regarding HB 5711-5716:

Director Steven Chester, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) and Richard Powers, MDEQ Water Bureau, and Carol Linteau, MDEQ Legislative Liaison, in opposition

Patrick McGuire, representing Royal Farms, Inc., in support
Jeff Sandborn, representing himself, in support
Ed Kretchman, representing himself, in support

Janet Kauffman, representing the Bean/Tiffin Watershed Coalition, in opposition
Molly Flanagan, representing the National Wildlife Federation, in opposition to HB 5711
John Klein, representing himself, in opposition
Jeff Van Nortwick, representing himself, in opposition
Kathy Melmoth, RN, representing ECCSCM (Environmentally Concerned Citizens in South Central Michigan)
Carmon Hauser, representing himself, in opposition
Marguerite Zachel, a family farmer, and representing the Sierra Club, in opposition

The following individuals were unable to speak to the Committee due to time restraints:

Ron Nelson, representing the Michigan Farm Bureau, in support
Scott Piggott, representing the Michigan Farm Bureau, in support
Becky Beauregard, representing the Michigan League of Conservation Voters, in opposition
Christopher Bedford, representing the Sweetwater Local Foods Market, in opposition
James Clift, representing the Michigan Environmental Council, in opposition
Kelly Dardzinski, representing PIRGIM (Public Interest Research Group in Michigan), in opposition
Jim Graham, representing the Michigan Farmers Union, in opposition
Gayle Miller, representing Pete Travis, Robert and Dawn Soltysiale, in opposition
Bethany Renfer, representing the Clean Water Action, in opposition
Anne Woiwode, representing the Sierra Club, in opposition
Pete Blauwickel, representing the Blue Wing Farm, no position stated

The following individuals submitted cards for HB 5711-HB 5716 but did not wish to speak before the Committee:

Bill Ankley, representing himself, in support
Blane Baker, representing himself, in support
Eldon Barclay, representing the Hale Farm Partnership, in support
Chad Beck, representing himself, in support
Brian Bellville, representing himself, in support
Terry Bellville, representing Bellville Acres, in support
Laverne Bivens, representing herself, in support
Bryan Bixby, representing the Michigan Apple Association
Bob Bloomer, representing Huron Pork, in support
Cindy Bly, representing herself, in support
Grant Bly, representing himself, in support
Ben Bodkin, representing the Michigan Association of Counties, in opposition to HB 5715 and HB 5716 and concerned about the concepts of the other bills
Monte Bordner, representing the Michigan Cattlemens Association, in support
Tom Braid, representing himself as a farmer, in support
Dave Cheney, representing the Michigan Pork Producers, in support

Richard Chudey, representing ECCSCM, in opposition
Stacey Coddington, representing herself, in support
Larry Crandall, representing the Crandall Dairy Farms, LLC, in support
Jim Davis, representing himself, in support
Patti Davis, representing herself, in support
Gerrit deGlee, representing the Michigan Cattlemens Association, in support
Dennis DeYoung, representing the Michigan Pork Producers, in support
Ricke A. Eiseman, representing himself, in support
Norman Emmons, representing himself, in support
Travis Fahley, representing himself, in support
Calby Garrison, representing himself, in support
John Garrison, representing himself, no position stated
Bill Graham, representing the Livingston County Farm Bureau, in support
Andrew Hagenow, representing himself, in support
Robert Haskin, representing himself, no position stated
Dean Henning, representing himself as a family farmer, in opposition
Lynn Henning, representing herself as a family farmer, in opposition
Audrey Herioux, representing the Herioux Farms, LLC, in support
Benny Herioux, representing the Herioux Farm, LLC, in support
Walter Herwarth, representing rural citizens, in opposition
Sam Hines, representing the Michigan Pork Producers Association, in support
Jeff Histed, representing himself, in support
Terry Histed, representing himself, in support
Jeff Hodge, representing himself, in support
Tim Hood, representing the Michigan Milk Producers Association, in support
Michael K. Houghtaling, representing himself, in support
George Hubka, representing Hub Farms, in support
Inez Hubka, representing herself, in support
Jeff Janish, representing himself, in support
Arlen Katterman, representing himself, in support
Timothy Kiesling, representing himself, in support
Ken Kirkman, representing himself, in support
Elwood Kirkpatrick, representing the Michigan Milk Producers Association, in support
Carole Lawrence, representing Barry County, in support
Rick Lawrence, representing himself, in support
Mark Layman, representing himself, in support
Duane Leach, representing himself, in support
Jane Leatherland, representing herself, in support
Derek LeCronier, representing himself, in support
Tim Leep, representing himself, in support
John Lenz, representing the Pratt Valley Farms, Barry County, in support
Charlie Lewis, representing himself, in support

Warren Malkin, representing himself, in support
Dan Mauer, representing himself, in support
Ken McBroom, representing himself, in support
Randy Mellberg, representing himself, in support
Ken Mitchell, representing himself, in support
Ken Nobis, representing himself and the Michigan Milk Producers Association, in support

Tony Pung, representing himself, in support
Ron Quackenbush, representing himself, in support
Ben Ritter, a Bay County Farmer representing himself, no position stated
Frank Rochowiak, representing himself, in support
Robert Rosenow, representing himself, in support
William Schmidt, representing himself, in support
Amanda Scheuerlein, representing herself, in support
Duane Schuerelein, representing himself, in support
Therese Scheuerlein, representing herself, no position stated
Mark Sears, representing MLA, in support
Tyson Shellenbarger, representing himself, in support
Harley Sietsema, representing the Sietsema Farms, in support
Rick Sietsema, representing the Michigan Allied Poultry Industries (MAPI), in support
Lynn Smith, representing herself, in support
Daniel Somalski, representing Bay Landscaping, Inc., in support
Bill Spike, representing the Michigan Farm Bureau, in support
John Stack, representing himself, in support
Donna Stine, representing the Michigan United Conservation Clubs, in opposition
Gerald Sylvester, representing himself, in support
Gary Trimner, representing the Michigan Milk Producers Association, in support
David VanDenBoom, representing himself, in support
Norman Veliquette, representing the Great Lakes Packing Company, in support
Jeffrey Wadell, representing himself, in support
Larry Wagner, representing himself, in support
George Winegar, representing himself, in support
Dennis Wooden, representing the Wooden Purebred Swine Farms, in support

There being no additional business before the Committee, Chair Nitz declared the meeting adjourned, the time being 5:52 p.m.

Representative Neal Nitz, Chair